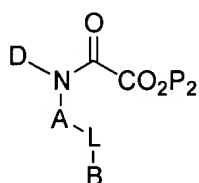


Amendments to the Claims

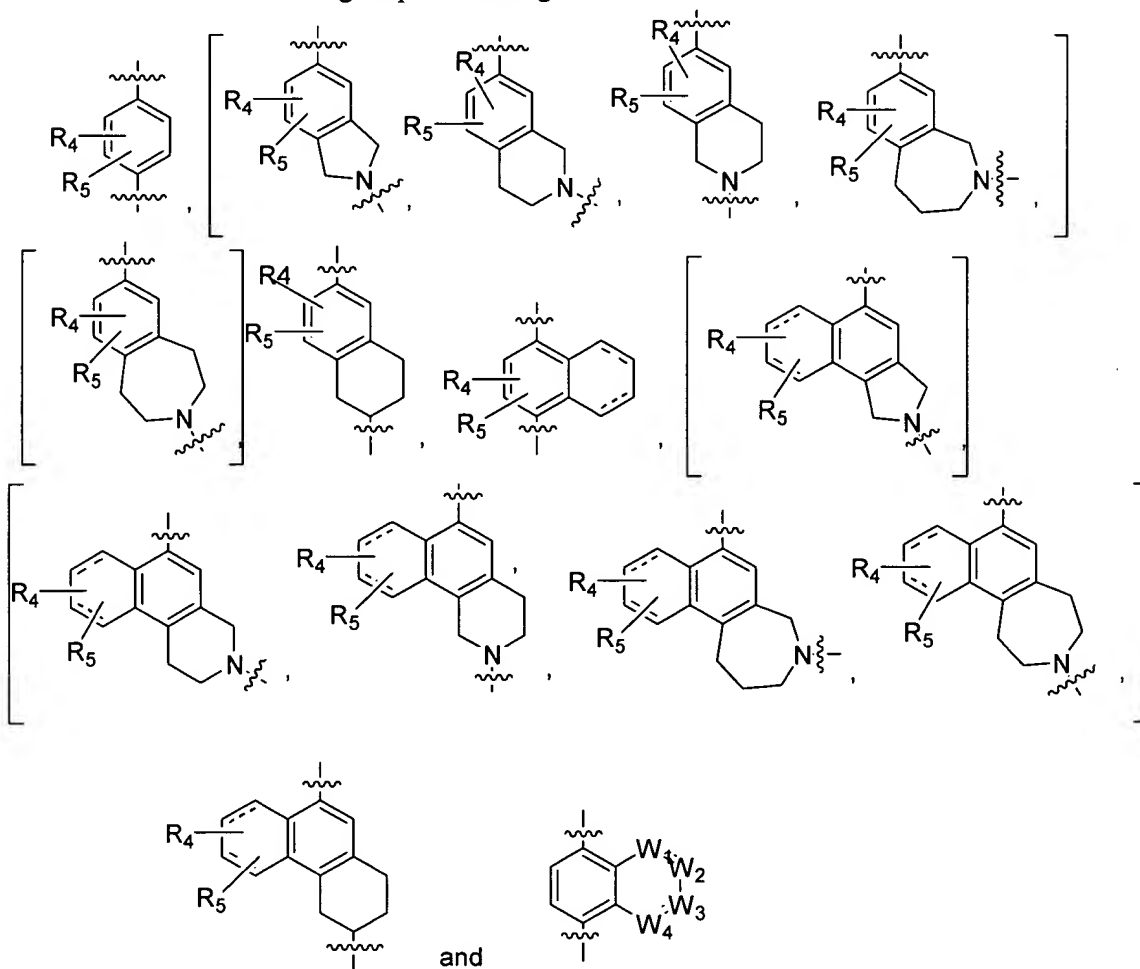
1 (Currently Amended). A compound of formula (I)



(I),

or a therapeutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, wherein

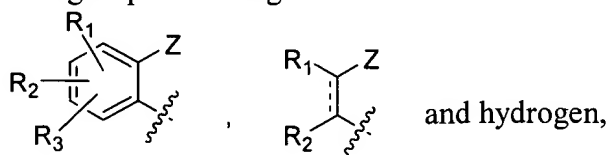
A is selected from the group consisting of



wherein the dotted line is either absent or is a single bond;

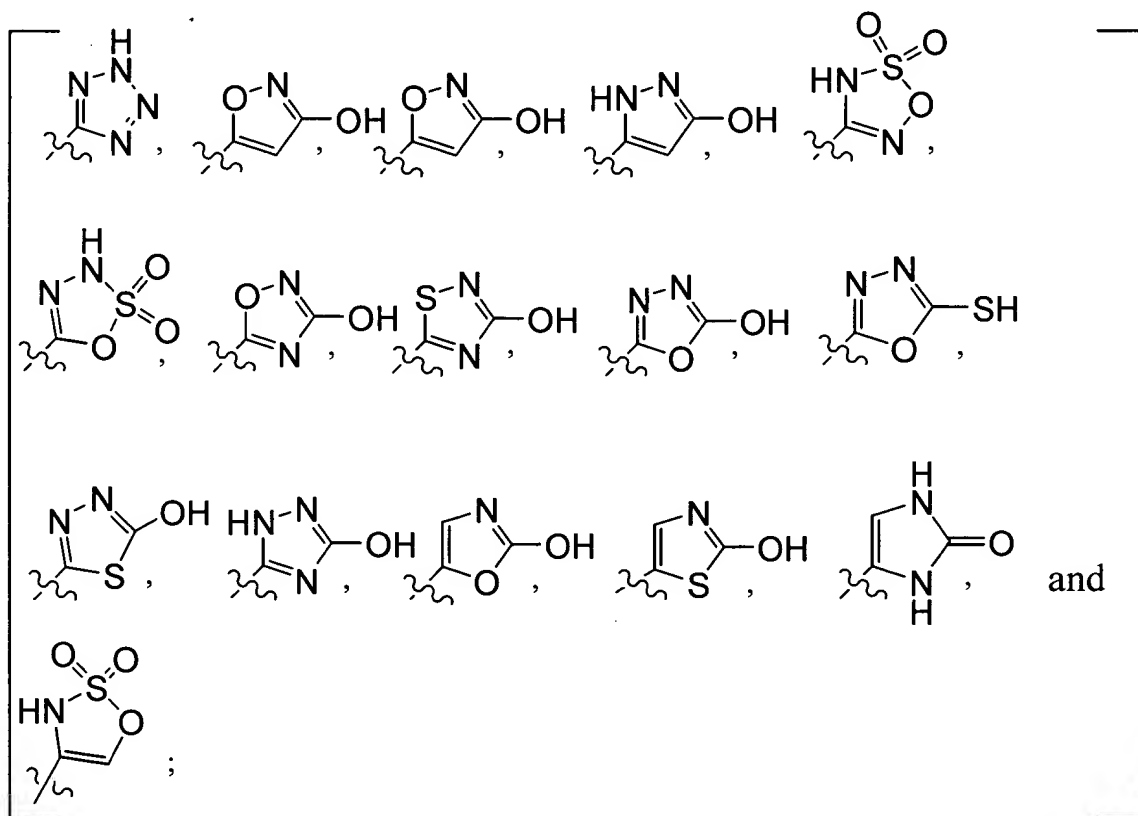
B is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, **and** arylalkyl;

D is selected from the group consisting of



and hydrogen,

wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, alkyl, amino, cyano, nitro, CO₂P₁, SO₃H, PO(OH)₂, CH₂PO(OH)₂, CHFPO(OH)₂, CF₂(PO(OH)₂), and C(=NH)NH₂; and
the following 5-membered heterocycles:



wherein P₁ and P₂ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl and (cycloalkyl)alkyl;

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cyano, halo, haloalkoxy, haloalkyl, **heterocycle, heterocyclealkyl**, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, NR_AR_B, NR_AR_BC(O), NR_AR_BC(O)alkyl and NR_AR_BC(O)alkenyl, wherein R_A and R_B are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylsulfonyl, aryl, arylalkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, arylsulfonyl and (R_CR_DN)carbonyl wherein R_C and R_D are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, and arylalkyl, **or R_A and R_B taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a ring selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidine, piperidine, morpholine, homopiperidine and piperazine;**

L is selected from the group consisting of
 -(CH₂)_mX₁(CH₂)_nCH(R₈)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X₂(CH₂)_pC(O)N(R₁₀)CH(CO₂R₁₁)(CH₂)_qX₃-;
 -(CH₂)_mX₁(CH₂)_nCH(R₈)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X₂(CH₂)_pEC(O)N(R₁₀)CH(CO₂R₁₁)(CH₂)_qX₃-;
 -(CH₂)_mX₁(CH₂)_nCH(R₈)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X₂(CH₂)_pX₃-;
 -(CH₂)_mX₁(CH₂)_nCH(R₈)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X₂(CH₂)_pX₃(CH₂)_qX₄-; and
 -(CH₂)_mX₁(CH₂)_nCH(R₈)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X₂(CH₂)_pE(CH₂)_qX₃-, wherein each group is drawn with the left end attached to A and the right end attached to B;

m, n, p and q are independently between 0-4;

R₈ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, NR_AR_B and (NR_AR_B)alkyl;

R_{9A} and R_{9B} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, hydroxyalkyl and R_ER_FNalkyl, wherein R_E and R_F are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy carbonyl and alkanoyl, or R_{9A} and R_{9B} taken together are oxo;

R₁₀ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkanoyl and alkoxy carbonyl;

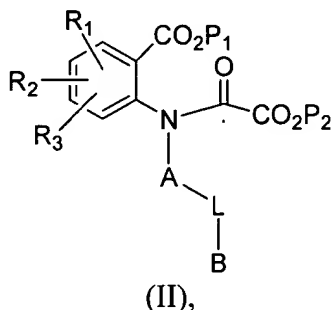
R₁₁ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, and (cycloalkyl)alkyl;

E is selected from the group consisting of aryl and cycloalkyl;

X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are independently absent or are independently selected from the group consisting of NR_G, O, S, S(O) and S(O)₂, wherein R_G is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkanoyl and alkoxy carbonyl; and

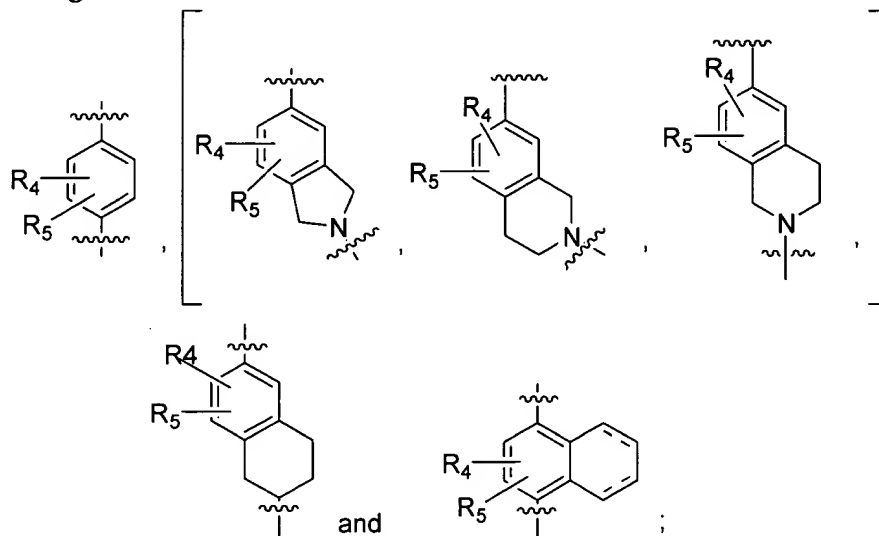
W₁, W₂, W₃ and W₄ are independently selected from the group consisting of CH[] **and** CH₂, **N**, **NH** **and** **O**.

2 (Currently Amended). The compound according to claim 1 of formula (II)



or a therapeutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof wherein A, B, L, P₁, P₂, R₁, R₂, and R₃ are defined in Claim 1.

3 (Currently Amended). The compound according to claim 2, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of



R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkyl, cyano, halo, haloalkoxy, haloalkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, NR_AR_B , $NR_AR_BC(O)$, $NR_AR_BC(O)alkyl$ and $NR_AR_BC(O)alkenyl$;

R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl; and

R_{11} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and arylalkyl.

4 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is

$-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$.

5 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is

$-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$; and

R_8 is NR_AR_B .

6 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is

$-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;

R_8 is NR_AR_B ; and

R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo.

7 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is

$-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B}))X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;

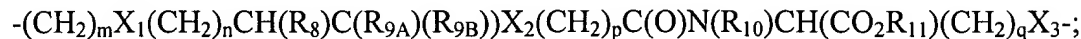
R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo; and

X_2 is NR_C .

8 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is



R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

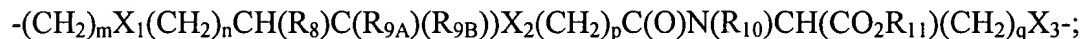
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;

X_2 is NR_C ; and

B is aryl.

9 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is



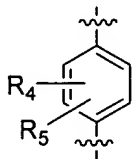
R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;

X_2 is NR_C ;

B is aryl; and

A is

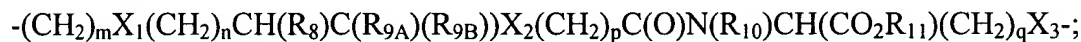


10 (Original). The compound according to claim 9, which is

N-[5-({*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl} amino)pentanoyl]-*L*-tyrosine.

11 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is



R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

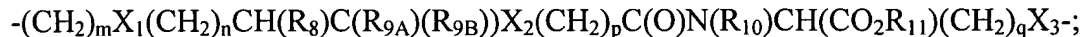
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;

X_2 is NR_C ; and

B is hydrogen.

12 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is



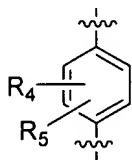
R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;

X_2 is NR_C ;

B is hydrogen; and

A is



13 (Original). The compound according to claim 12, which is
N-[5-(N-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl}amino)pentanoyl]-L-norleucine.

14 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pEC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$.

15 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pEC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$; and
 R_8 is NR_AR_B .

16 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pEC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ; and
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo.

17 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pEC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo; and
 X_2 is NR_C .

18 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pEC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ; and
B is hydrogen.

19 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pEC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
B is hydrogen; and
E is cycloalkyl.

20 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is

$-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pEC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;

R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

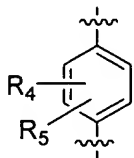
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;

X_2 is NR_C ;

B is hydrogen;

E is cycloalkyl; and

A is



21 (Original). The compound according to claim 20, which is
N-{[4-({[N-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-(2-hydroxyethyl)phenylalanyl]amino}methyl)cyclohexyl]carbonyl}-L-norleucine.

22 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is

$-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B}))X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;

R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;

X_2 is NR_C ;

X_3 is S; and

B is alkyl.

23 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is

$-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B}))X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$;

R_8 is NR_AR_B ;

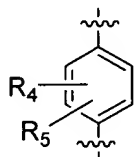
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;

X_2 is NR_C ;

X_3 is S;

B is alkyl; and

A is



24 (Original). The compound according to claim 23, selected from the group consisting of
N-{5-[(N-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl]amino]pentanoyl}-L-methionine;
methyl N-{5-[(N-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl]amino]pentanoyl}-L-methioninate;

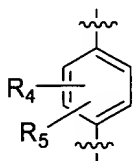
N-{5-[(*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl)amino]pentanoyl}-*S*-ethyl-L-homocysteine;
N-{5-[(*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-isopropylphenylalanyl)amino]pentanoyl}-L-methionine;
N-{5-[(*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxy-5-chlorophenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl)amino]pentanoyl}-L-methionine; and
N-(5-{[*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-(2-hydroxyethyl)phenylalanyl]amino}pentanoyl)-L-methionine.

25 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is S; and
B is aryl.

26 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is S;
B is aryl; and
A is



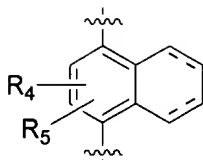
27 (Original). The compound according to claim 26, which is

N-{5-[(*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl)amino]pentanoyl}-*S*-benzyl-L-cysteine.

28 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

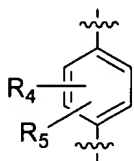
L is
 $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pC(O)N(R_{10})CH(CO_2R_{11})(CH_2)_qX_3-$
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is S;
B is alkyl; and

A is



- 29 (Original). The compound according to claim 28, which is
N-(5-{{3-(4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-1-naphthyl)-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)alanyl}amino}pentanoyl)-*L*-methionine.
- 30 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$.
- 31 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$; and
 R_8 is NR_AR_B .
- 32 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ; and
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo.
- 33 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo; and
 X_2 is NR_C .
- 34 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ; and
 X_3 is O.
- 35 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O; and
B is aryl.

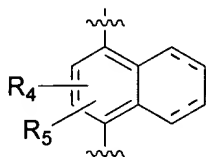
- 36 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
 L is $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pX_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O;
 B is aryl; and
 A is



- 37 (Original). The compound according to claim 36, selected from the group consisting of
 methyl 2-[4-({*N*-[(allyloxy)carbonyl]-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy]-6-hydroxybenzoate;
 methyl 2-[4-[(*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl)amino]butoxy]-6-hydroxybenzoate;
 methyl 4-[4-[(*N*-acetyl-4-amino-3-ethylphenylalanyl)amino]butoxy]-2-hydroxy-1,1'-biphenyl-3-carboxylate;
 2-[4-({*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl}amino)butoxy]-6-hydroxybenzoic acid;
 methyl 6-[4-[(*N*-acetyl-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenylalanyl)amino]butoxy]-3-bromo-2-hydroxybenzoate;
 methyl 2-(4-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy)-6-hydroxy-4-pentylbenzoate;
 methyl 2-(4-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy)-6-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzoate;
 methyl 3-(4-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy)-5-hydroxy-1,1'-biphenyl-4-carboxylate;
 methyl 2-(4-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy)-6-hydroxy-4-methylbenzoate;
 methyl 2-(4-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy)-4-chloro-6-hydroxybenzoate;
 methyl 2-(4-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy)-6-hydroxybenzoate;
 4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-{4-[2-(aminocarbonyl)-3-hydroxyphenoxy]butyl}-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalaninamide;
 methyl 3-(4-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalanyl}amino)butoxy)-1-hydroxy-2-naphthoate;
 4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(4-{3-hydroxy-2-[(methylamino)carbonyl]phenoxy}butyl)-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalaninamide;
 4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(4-{2-[(ethylamino)carbonyl]-3-hydroxyphenoxy}butyl)-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-L-phenylalaninamide;

N-{4-[2-(acetylamino)-3-hydroxyphenoxy]butyl}-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-*L*-phenylalaninamide; and
4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-*N*-(4-{2-[(dimethylamino)carbonyl]-3-hydroxyphenoxy}butyl)-*N*-(methoxycarbonyl)-*L*-phenylalaninamide.

- 38 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O;
B is aryl; and
A is



- 39 (Original). The compound according to claim 38, selected from the group consisting of
methyl 2-[(5-{[*N*-acetyl-3-(4-amino-1-naphthyl)-*L*-alanyl]amino}pentyl)oxy]-6-hydroxy-4-methylbenzoate; and
3-({5-[*N*-acetyl-3-{4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-1-naphthyl}-*L*-alanyl]amino}pentyl)oxy)-2-naphthoic acid.

- 40 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$; and
 R_8 is hydrogen.

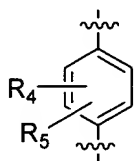
- 41 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen; and
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo.

- 42 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo; and
 X_2 is NR_C .

43 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pX_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ; and
 X_3 is O.

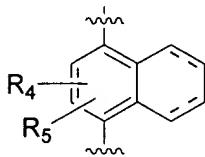
44 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pX_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O; and
B is aryl.

45 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pX_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O; and
B is aryl; and
A is



46 (Original). The compound according to claim 45, which is
methyl 2-(4-{[3-(4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-3-ethylphenyl)propanoyl]amino}butoxy)-6-hydroxybenzoate.

47 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pX_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O;
B is aryl; and
A is



48 (Original). The compound according to claim 47, which is

2-((carboxycarbonyl){4-[3-({4-[3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy]butyl}amino)-3-oxopropyl]-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-1-naphthyl}amino)benzoic acid.

49 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;

R_8 is hydrogen; and

R_{9A} is alkyl.

50 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;

R_8 is hydrogen;

R_{9A} is alkyl; and

X_2 is NR_C .

51 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;

R_8 is hydrogen;

R_{9A} is alkyl;

X_2 is NR_C ; and

X_3 is O.

52 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;

R_8 is hydrogen;

R_{9A} is alkyl;

X_2 is NR_C ;

X_3 is O; and

B is aryl.

53 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;

R_8 is hydrogen;

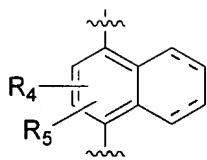
R_{9A} is alkyl;

X_2 is NR_C ;

X_3 is O;

B is aryl; and

A is



54 (Original). The compound according to claim 53, which is methyl 2-(4-{[3-(4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-1-naphthyl)-1-methylpropyl]amino}butoxy)-6-hydroxybenzoate.

55 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen; and
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} are both hydrogen.

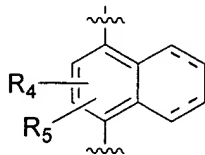
56 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} are both hydrogen; and
 X_2 is NR_C .

57 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} are both hydrogen;
 X_2 is NR_C ; and
 X_3 is O.

58 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} are both hydrogen;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O; and
B is aryl.

59 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3-$;
 R_8 is hydrogen;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} are both hydrogen;
 X_2 is NR_C ;

X₃ is O;
B is aryl; and
A is



60 (Original). The compound according to claim 59, which is methyl 2-(4-{[3-(4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-1-naphthyl)propyl]amino}butoxy)-6-hydroxybenzoate.

61 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{X}_4-$.

62 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{X}_4-$; and
R₈ is NR_AR_B.

63 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{X}_4-$;
R₈ is NR_AR_B; and
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo.

64 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{X}_4-$;
R₈ is NR_AR_B;
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo; and
X₂ is NR_C.

65 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{X}_4-$;
R₈ is NR_AR_B;
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
X₂ is NR_C; and
X₃ is O.

66 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein
L is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{X}_1(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R}_8)\text{C}(\text{R}_{9A})(\text{R}_{9B})\text{X}_2(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{X}_3(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{X}_4-$;
R₈ is NR_AR_B;

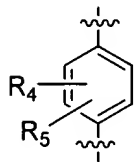
R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O; and
 X_4 is O.

67 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pX_3(CH_2)_qX_4-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O;
 X_4 is O; and
B is aryl.

68 (Original). The compound according to claim 2, wherein

L is $-(CH_2)_mX_1(CH_2)_nCH(R_8)C(R_{9A})(R_{9B})X_2(CH_2)_pX_3(CH_2)_qX_4-$;
 R_8 is NR_AR_B ;
 R_{9A} and R_{9B} together are oxo;
 X_2 is NR_C ;
 X_3 is O;
 X_4 is O;
B is aryl; and
A is



69 (Original). The compound according to claim 68, which is

methyl 2-{2-[2-({*N*-[(allyloxy)carbonyl]-4-[(carboxycarbonyl)(2-carboxyphenyl)amino]-L-phenylalanyl}amino)ethoxy]ethoxy}-6-hydroxybenzoate;

70 (Original). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

71 (Previously Presented). A method of treating diabetes by selectively inhibiting protein tyrosine phosphatase 1B comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

72 (Previously Presented). A method of treating diabetes caused by overexpressed or altered protein tyrosine phosphatase 1B comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

73 (Canceled).

74 (Canceled).

75 (Canceled).

RESPONSE

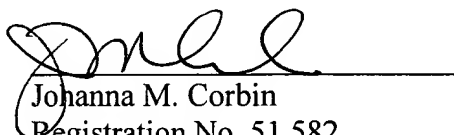
All claimed limitations related to heterocyclic compounds have now been removed from the claims. A typographical error has been corrected in claim 2. Applicants respectfully maintain that claims 1-72 are now in condition for allowance.

ACTION REQUESTED

For the forgoing reasons, Applicants submit that Claims 1-72 are in condition for allowance. To that end, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to schedule an Examiner Interview to discuss any matter.

Respectfully submitted,
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